

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the ends Thou Aims't at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's."

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25,000 MEET DEATH IN ITALY

Reports From Rome Indicate That Loss of Life Was Greater Than at First Thought.

Tremors During Day Increase Terror of Already Horror Stricken People—11,000 Killed in City of Avezzano Alone and There is Tremendous Loss of Life Elsewhere, With Probably 35,000 Wounded—Twenty Cities Wrecked and Others Wiped Out of Existence—Earth Opened and Houses Swallowed Up in Chasms—Relief Parties Aiding Victims.

Rome, Jan. 14.—Three slight earth tremors in central Italy today increased the terror caused by the terrific shocks of yesterday, which now seem to have been the greatest disaster since the destruction of Messina. Later reports swell the estimates of the number killed yesterday to fifteen thousand, with additional news of fatalities arriving hourly. Over twenty-five thousand were injured and a hundred thousand made homeless. Eleven thousand were killed in the town of Avezzano alone. Over twenty towns and villages were wrecked. The cabinet meeting this morning began a movement to relieve the victims. The bitter cold is increasing the suffering of the homeless. Fifty-seven public buildings in Rome were seriously damaged. Many windows were broken in the great dome of St. Peter's. Eighty houses, some of them the finest residences of Italian nobles were destroyed. Many works of art and memorial windows in the Vatican were shattered. Five thousand soldiers with supplies, surgeons and medical equipment have been sent into the devastated sections. A hundred were killed in Seva, and a hundred in Arpino. The towns of Pallano, Bussia and Cucullo were demolished. The Abruzzi, Aqulla and Campania districts were heavy sufferers.

One thousand are reported killed in the vicinity of the village of Albe, near Celano. The region most deeply affected extends two hundred and eighty miles north to south and one hundred miles from the Mediterranean coast east towards the Adriatic with center in the valley of the central Apennines.

ESTIMATES OF ADDITIONAL LOSS.
Rome, Jan. 14.—Premier Salandra at 6.30 this evening stated that he feared that 25,000 had lost their lives in the earthquake yesterday, with the injured numbering over 35,000. At Avezzano great chasms opened, swallowing up houses along the Fusino Lake.

Loss of Life Exaggerated.
Naples, Jan. 14.—A brief dispatch from Avezzano says reports have greatly exaggerated the loss of life. Authorities here declare the loss of life is not over two thousand.

Rome Reports 50,000 Casualties.
Rome, Jan. 14 P. M.—The earthquake horror grows hourly. It is now believed that perhaps 50,000 were killed or injured.

Terrific Battles Today.
Paris, Jan. 14.—With both sides reinforced the battles around Crouy, and in front of Laon are terrific today. A half million more British troops are reported to be on the way to France. German prisoners state that 27,000 German officers have been killed and the formation of a new army corps is seriously hampered.

Rome, Jan. 13.—Italy has been visited by an earthquake of wide extent, which, according to the latest advices, has resulted in the death of 12,000 and injury to possibly 20,000 more in towns and villages destroyed. The shock was the strongest Rome has felt in more than 100 years.

The town of Avezzano in the Abruzzi department, 63 miles east of Rome, has been levelled to the ground and here 8,000 persons are reported to have been killed.

In many small towns surrounding Rome buildings were partially wrecked, while at Naples a panic occurred and houses fell at Caserta, a short distance to the east.

servatory showed there was only one, which, beginning at 7.55 o'clock in the morning, lasted from 22 to 30 seconds.

In the capital itself, so far as known, there was no loss of life, but a great deal of damage was done, churches and statues suffering most. For a time the people were stricken with fear and there was a veritable panic in hospitals, monasteries and convents.

Buildings on both sides of the Porta del Popolo, the north entrance to Rome, threatened to fall and the eagle d. cora at the gate crashed to the ground. The obelisk in St. Peter's square was shaken and badly damaged, while the statue of St. John Lateran and the statues of the Apostles surmounting the basilica are in danger of collapsing. The famous colonnade decorating St. Peter's square was lowered four feet and the adjacent house, once occupied by the sisters of Pope Pius X, was badly cracked.

Owing to the wide extent of the disturbance and its evident terrible consequences, the actual effects are not at present known. Communications are cut off. The fortified city of Aquila is isolated but it is reported several villages in that region were destroyed. Likewise, Potenza, capital of the province of same name, on the eastern declivity of the Apennines, which has a population of nearly 20,000, has been isolated. In 1857 this town was almost destroyed by an earthquake.

Father Alfani, director of the observatory at Valle di Pompelli, has sent the following telegram to Rome: "The earthquake registered by our apparatus appears to have been most disastrous for a radius of more than 100 miles. Probably its centre was the province of Potenza. Meanwhile communications with Potenza are interrupted and a grave disaster there is feared."

As details began to arrive it was apparent the disturbance in the province of Rome and the Abruzzi had been greater than at first believed and that it also had been felt severely around Naples.

At Monterotondo three persons were killed and two wounded, at Zagarolo the dome of a church fell; at Galliano part of the cathedral was wrecked; at Veroli two persons were killed and two injured; at Tivoli one person was killed; at Pereto five houses collapsed and at Poggio Nativo one person was killed and several were injured.

There is no communication with the ancient fortified city of Aquila. In the Abruzzi, owing to interruption of telegraph service, it is reported, however, that several villages were destroyed at that vicinity.

At Torre Cajotani, 37 miles east of Rome, almost the entire town was destroyed. At Arnara the municipal building collapsed.

From numerous places calls for physicians are reaching Rome.

Pope Benedict was reciting the thanksgiving after the morning mass when the shock occurred. He retained his composure and gave orders immediately that the damage both inside and outside the Vatican be ascertained.

King Victor Emmanuel also ordered the minister of the interior to furnish him with all details of the earthquake. The king expressed a desire to visit the damaged districts.

At the capital two magnificent candlesticks fell and were broken. At the Palazzo del Drago, where Thomas Nelson Page lives, several cracks in the building which already had existed opened wider, and plaster fell in several rooms. Glass was broken in the embassy office.

TO BUILD GREAT SUBMARINE.

ONE LARGE AND THREE SMALLER ONES.

Largest of Quartette to Be Seagoing Craft With Displacement of 1,000 Tons.

Washington, Jan. 12.—Contracts were awarded by the navy department today to the Electric Boat company for one sea-going submarine to be built at Quincy, Mass., for \$1,350,000, and for three coast defense submarines to be built at Seattle, Wash., at \$450,000 each. The Lake Torpedo Boat company was awarded contracts for four coast defense submarines to be built at Bridgeport, Conn., for \$427,000 each.

The big sea-going submarine of 1,000 tons will be twice as large as any submarine now in a foreign navy. Certain features of American design will make this craft unique. She will have a radius of action of about 3,000 miles, a surface speed of 20 knots and submerged speed of 11 knots. By using her storage batteries alone she will be able to travel completely under water for more than a whole day. On her deck will be carried rapid fire guns, designed to be completely inclosed when the vessel dives beneath the surface. A valuable feature will be directable torpedo tubes, making it unnecessary to manoeuvre the ship to aim at an enemy and adding enormously to the craft's offensive power.

The coast defense submarines are only one-third the size of the big sea-going type, although they themselves are quite seaworthy for short voyages. These boats will have a steaming radius on the surface of about 1,000 miles and their lighter drafts is regarded as essential for operations in comparatively shallow harbors.

Washington, Jan. 13.—Two new battleships, sixteen submarines, six destroyers, one hospital ship, one oiler, one transport, and one sea-going submarine is the program agreed upon today by the house naval committee. This program is more extensive than the estimate of Secretary Daniels calls for.

that part occupied by the profane museum, the earthquake caused cracks big enough to permit outside light to penetrate the building. The hall of the chamber of deputies likewise was cracked.

Among other edifices damaged are the churches of St. Andrea Farette and St. Agatha of the Goths, the latter being the oldest church in Rome. In all the churches after the shock had subsided special prayers were offered.

It is said the centre of the quake was between Campobasso and Sarno, and that it was felt strongly at Perugia and slightly as far north as Ferrara.

In the country places the people are camping in the open.

The town of Pofi is reported to have been half destroyed. At Gulliano two persons were killed.

At the meteorological institute it is said that the building continued to rock or tremble for about 30 seconds after the shock had ceased and that the duration altogether was about one minute. It was stated it was not believed the disturbance extended to Sicily.

NAPLES TERRIFIED BY SHOCK.
Naples, Jan. 13.—A violent earthquake shock occurred here today and caused a panic.

It is reported that many houses fell in Caserta, northeast of Naples. All the glass in the observatory on Mount Vesuvius was broken.

In the Church of the Divine Providence, sisters were praying around the bier of a dead nun when the first tremor caused one of her arms to move. The sisters at first cried out that a miracle of resuscitation had taken place, but the oscillation of the building became apparent and the candlesticks and crucifix in the chapel began falling. Then they realized what was happening and rushed terror-stricken to the street.

Great crowds of the population fled into the thoroughfares and formed into processions, reciting the Litany of Saints. Many of the people in their excitement declared the earthquake was a punishment for the sins of men fighting against their brothers in the European war.

Father Alfani, director of the Pompeii observatory, says the earthquake appears to have been most disastrous for a radius of more than 100 miles. He fixed the centre of the disturbance in the province of Potenza.

Communication with the town of Potenza has been interrupted and grave disaster there is feared.

MILITIA'S FUTURE ASSURED.

WASHINGTON EXPECTS RESUMPTION OF RELATIONS.

War Department Officials Convinced That New Administration Will Restore National Guard.

Washington, Jan. 12.—Apparently there need not be the least fear that the members of the South Carolina militia will be permanently disbanded under the orders of Gov. Blease, issued yesterday to that effect. Things will go on just as they have been as soon as Gov-elect Manning takes the oath of office. Today officials of the war department did not take the latest orders of Gov. Blease seriously when seen concerning the matter. In fact, they seemed to be of the opinion that when the new governor comes in not only will the Blease order be rescinded but that South Carolina will take her former position in military standing with other States and assume the same status before the controversy of a year or two ago broke relations with the war department. At the present time the situation is best stated in the following telegram sent by Senator Tillman to a South Carolina paper today:

"Members of the South Carolina delegation have received various telegrams from different officers in the militia about Gov. Blease's remarkable order disbanding the South Carolina militia. Consultation with the secretary of war leads me to advise that the militia do nothing but be prepared to quell riots if any occur as citizens under the orders of the sheriff. Everybody sit quiet in the boat until Gov. Blease's term expires, when Gov. Manning takes charge of the situation."

War department officials are expecting Adjutant General W. W. Moore here tomorrow.

JOHN TUCKER ARRESTED.

Negro Who Slew Bloodhound and Wanted for Hog Stealing is Arrested in Capital City.

Columbia, Jan. 13.—The slayer of "Ben" has been caught. Several weeks ago Guard J. C. Robbins of the penitentiary took his bloodhounds to Sumter county to chase John Tucker, a negro, wanted for hog stealing. The negro had previously been arrested by a rural policeman of Sumter county, but had made his escape. The dogs were phoned for and Guard Robbins took them to the scene. They took up the trail and followed the negro to a swamp. "Ben," long famed as a hunter of men, and the leading bloodhound of the pack, went into the undergrowth pursuing Tucker and the negro shot him. The other dogs would go no farther and the negro got away.

Guard Robbins was determined not to give up the chase and he has kept his eyes open for Tucker. He got wind that the negro was in Columbia and yesterday afternoon, in company with Officer Knox, he found Tucker in a house near the union station. Upon the entry of the officers Tucker crawled under a nearby bed. He was lodged in the State penitentiary and this morning will be returned to Sumter to stand trial.

THREE HELD AT FAIR PLAY.

Bound Over for Trial in Circuit Court on Charge of Murder.

Walhalla, Jan. 12.—At the preliminary hearing here today before Magistrate J. B. S. Dendy the three men charged with murder in the Fair Play rioting—William McClure, Woodrow Campbell and Calhoun Kay—were held for trial in the court of general sessions.

About 25 or 30 witnesses were sworn. Much testimony was adduced against the defendants in custody, as well as a number of others, whose arrest will likely follow in the near future. The three men are in the Oconee jail.

No little interest centred about the preliminary hearing, the court room at times being almost filled.

The final outcome, as well as developments between now and the next term of criminal court, holds a wide interest in Oconee.

The three men now in jail are prominent in their section of the county.

SAMUEL INMAN DEAD.

Old Time Cotton Speculator Passes Away in Atlanta.

Atlanta, Jan. 12.—Samuel Inman, the millionaire cotton broker and philanthropist, who is known all over the south and east, died this morning, aged about 75 years, of heart failure. He had been ill three months.

CHAS. A. SMITH IS GOVERNOR

Cole L. Blease Resigned at Noon and Lieutenant Governor Took Oath of Office Few Minutes Later.

New Governor Sworn in By Chief Justice Gary in Supreme Court Room—Sensation Created in Political Circles By Executive's Action—Governor Smith Prepares Message For General Assembly.

FIERCE FIGHTING IN FRANCE.

BOTH SIDES REINFORCED AND STRIVE FOR ADVANTAGE AROUND CROUY AND IN FRONT OF LAON.

England Sending More Troops to France—Massacre of Christians by Kurds Continues—Russians Report Victory in Caucasus—Austrians Win Battle in Upper Ung Valley and Endeavor to Cut off Russians in Mountains—Riots in Russia.

Austrians Defeat Russians.
Vienna, Jan. 14.—It is officially announced that the Russian invaders through Uzok pass have been defeated by Austro-Hungarians in the valley of the upper Ung and are retreating toward the pass pursued by the Austrians who are attempting to cut off their retreat.

Riots in Russia Reported.

Berlin, Jan. 14 (Wireless, Official).—Serious rioting has broken out in the interior towns of Russia and many regiments of Cossacks have been withdrawn from the front to cope with the situation. The Germans are again bombarding Rheims, answering French garrison batteries which are shelling German positions.

Kurds Massacre Christians.

Tiflis, Jan. 14.—As the Turks advance into Persia the Kurd tribesmen are massacring all Christians captured. They killed three hundred at Minadoah, south of Tabrice.

Russians Win Another Victory.

Petrograd, Jan. 14.—Another victory over Turks and the annihilation of an entire battalion in the Caucasus was officially announced today. The Turks continue to advance into Persia.

Belgian Town Being Destroyed.

Berlin, Jan. 14.—The Belgian town of Westende is being destroyed by the allies' artillery fire.

INSPECTION ORDER UNSIGNED.

Governor Says He Will Leave His Successor to Handle Militia Question.

Columbia, Jan. 14.—The governor has refused to sign an order for the inspection of the National Guard of the State, which was presented by W. W. Moore, adjutant and inspector general.

"The order, relative to the inspection of the National Guard of South Carolina, will not be signed by me, because I do not approve it," he says in a letter to the adjutant general.

"The entire matter will be left for such action as a successor in office may deem best, under the conditions now confronting the militia of this State."

The adjutant general addressed the following letter to the governor:

"Under date of January 2, 1915, general orders No. 1, A. G. O., 1915, covering inspection itinerary of the organized militia of South Carolina, was sent you for your approval. Repeated inquiries made of your private secretary stated that you had not yet approved this order. As the annual inspections begin on February 8 of this year, it is very important that this order be issued prior to such inspections. You are, therefore, requested to approve and return this order to me at your earliest convenience, in order that same may be promulgated."

WELL KNOWN PREACHER DEAD.

Was Asphyxiated by Gas in His Study.

Gulfport, Miss., Jan. 13.—Rev. H. A. Jones, for many years pastor of the First Presbyterian church, but formerly a newspaper man who founded the Memphis Commercial-Appeal, was found dead in his study, asphyxiated, today.

Columbia, Jan. 14.—Gov. Cole L. Blease resigned his office at noon today and was immediately succeeded by Lieut. Gov. Charles A. Smith. The governor took the oath of office in the Supreme Court room, the being administered by Chief Justice Gary, accompanied by Gov. Cole L. Blease, Attorney General C. I. Peebles and others. Gov. Smith at once repaired to the executive office and took charge.

Blease filed his resignation as governor with the senate immediately after the joint assembly had elected Mendel L. Smith judge of the Fifth judicial circuit. The resignation was also filed with the house.

The resignation of Blease created a great sensation. Gov. Smith at once began preparing a message for the general assembly.

NOTHING TO SAY NOW.

Mr. Manning Says He will Have Something More Important to Say Next Tuesday.

Mr. R. I. Manning upon being asked if he had anything to say for publication upon the resignation of Governor Blease, stated "I have nothing at all to say on the subject." He then added "I will have something to say next Tuesday that, I hope, will be of much more importance to the State."

The news of the resignation of Governor Blease was received here about 1 o'clock today and was the general subject of conversation on the streets this afternoon. There did not seem to be a great deal of surprise at the action of the former governor, as it was generally reported some time ago that he had stated that he would resign so that "Charley" Smith would be the chief executive of the State for a short time, and in order that he would not have any direct contact with Governor R. I. Manning, who will be inaugurated on Tuesday next.

FARM LOAN NOVEL PLAN.

Lending Company Advises Planter to Buy Crop Instead of Raising It.

Columbia, Jan. 13.—Carolina Bond and Mortgage company of Columbia announced yesterday the completion of arrangements whereby it will handle loans upon improved farm lands in South Carolina at 7 per cent annual interest, on the idea that numbers of farmers may prefer mortgaging their lands and buying cotton with the proceeds to raising the staple. The company has an authorized capitalization of \$250,000. J. L. Minnigh is president, L. M. Hawkins secretary-treasurer.

Charles H. Barron of counsel for the company said yesterday, in advocating the policy of buying cotton this year instead of raising it:

"Cotton is selling below the cost of production and if one can buy his 1915 crop cheaper than he can grow it, sound business principles suggest that he should do so. In addressing the farmer, we advocate buying instead of raising, in about these terms:

"If cotton is bought from your neighbors holding distressed cotton it will relieve them; it will save the worry of the labor question in gathering your crop in the fall; it will put money into circulation in your neighborhood; it will curtail the 1915 crop the number of bales you buy instead of grow; your 1915 crop will be a certainty at a fixed cost of production; it will enable you to use your cotton land for raising grain and stock."

SENATE CONFIRMS POSTMASTER.

Dr. Geo. W. Dick Among Those Whose Nominations Go Through.

Washington, Jan. 12.—The senate today in executive session confirmed the following South Carolina postoffice nominations: A. K. Lorenz, Aiken; J. H. Bodie, Leesville; Frank George, Lexington; C. B. Cooper, Mayesville; Dr. George W. Dick, Sumter.